



ATTENTION

INDIVIDUALS, FIRMS AND TRAINING PROGRAMS DOING LEAD-BASED PAINT WORK IN MISSISSIPPI

United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Region 4, Pesticides and Toxic Substances Branch

IMPORTANT NOTICE

**EPA WILL RUN A
LEAD-BASED PAINT
TRAINING AND
CERTIFICATION
PROGRAM IN
MISSISSIPPI.**

**IT WILL BE
AGAINST FEDERAL LAW**

**TO DO LEAD-BASED
PAINT WORK IN
MISSISSIPPI WITHOUT
HAVING CERTIFICATION
FROM EPA.**

EPA has initiated the process to withdraw authorization from the State of Mississippi to operate a lead-based paint training and certification program for EPA. Until this process is complete, there is no change in how EPA or State lead-based paint regulations affect you. Once this withdrawal is complete, EPA will begin operating a federal program in Mississippi and you must comply with EPA lead-based paint training and certification requirements. If Mississippi continues to operate their State program, you may be required to comply with the State regulations as well as the EPA requirements.

The following questions and answers are provided to assist you.

When will the lead-based paint training and certification program be withdrawn from Mississippi?

The program will be withdrawn no earlier than September 2, 2002. A notice of the withdrawal will be published in the Federal Register.

May individuals and firms with certificates issued by the State of Mississippi do lead-based paint work in Mississippi after EPA withdraws the State lead-based paint program? No.

Individuals and firms must be certified by EPA to legally do lead-based paint work in Mississippi after the program is withdrawn, even if they have certification from the Mississippi program.

Individuals and firms with certification from EPA for other areas must amend their EPA application to include Mississippi.

How do individuals apply to EPA for certification?

Individuals seeking initial EPA-certification have two options for applying to EPA.

Option 1:

Submit an application that includes a copy of a valid lead-based paint activities certification from an EPA-authorized state, territory or tribal program. A certificate issued by the State of Mississippi before the program is withdrawn, if still in effect at the time of application to EPA, is acceptable.

Option 2:

Submit an application that includes proof of training taken from an EPA-accredited training program. Any training other than EPA-accredited training is not acceptable in applications for initial certification using this option. The application must also include information concerning education and experience. Some individuals may have to pass an EPA-administered third-party test.

For applicants using Option 2.

Is training completed at Mississippi-accredited training programs acceptable in applications for initial EPA-certification? No, unless the training program is also EPA-accredited.

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May training programs with accreditations issued by the State of Mississippi conduct lead-based paint activities courses in Mississippi after the program is withdrawn? Yes.

However, only courses accredited by EPA may be offered or advertised as EPA-accredited. If the training program wishes to offer EPA-accredited training courses in Mississippi after the program is withdrawn, the training program must receive accreditation from EPA. If the training program is accredited by EPA for other areas, the training program must amend it's EPA application to include Mississippi.

How do firms apply to EPA for certification?

Firms seeking certification from EPA to perform or offer to perform lead-based paint activities must submit to EPA a letter attesting that the firm shall only employ appropriately certified employees to conduct lead-based paint activities, and that the firm and its employees shall follow the work practice standards in 40 C.F.R. Part 745.227. The submission of a completed application on EPA Form "Application for Firms to Conduct Lead-Based Paint Activities" is acceptable instead of a letter.

**United States
Environmental
Protection Agency**

Will firms be required to notify EPA of the commencement of lead-based paint abatement activities in Mississippi? Not at this time.

A final rulemaking on EPA's notification procedures is not yet in effect. When rules are finalized, firms will have to notify EPA of their activities in accordance with those rules.

Fees:

Will EPA require fees from individuals, firms, and training programs with Mississippi certificates seeking certification or accreditation from EPA? Yes.

All individuals, firms and training programs seeking certification or accreditation from EPA must pay fees. However, no fee shall be imposed on any training program operated by a State, federally recognized Indian Tribe, local government, or nonprofit organizations.

*Protecting human health,
safeguarding the natural
environment*

Applications and Other Information:

Certification and accreditation applications and instructions can be obtained from the National Lead Information Center (NLIC) by calling **1-800-424-LEAD**, or may be downloaded from the EPA Web site at:

www.epa.gov/lead/leadcert.htm

NLIC also has numerous publications related to lead-based paint activities and health studies. For a list of publications call NLIC or visit the Web site located at:

www.epa.gov/lead/nlic.htm

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[www.epa.gov/region4/air/
lead/mslead.htm](http://www.epa.gov/region4/air/lead/mslead.htm)